

**Minutes**  
**Highland Community Collaboration Council**  
Bland, Bristol City, Russell, Smyth, Washington, and Wythe  
Hybrid Meeting  
April 8, 2024 (Monday)  
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Welcome and Introductions

Richard opened the meeting at 9:30 and members introduced themselves. Richard asked for additions or corrections to the agenda. There were 34 virtual members in attendance today.

- Check in: Brief introductions for all attendees.

Old Business:

- Review and approval of Draft meeting notes from the March 11, 2024 HCCC meeting. Gary motioned and Regina seconded the motion. All in favor. The February minutes are approved.

Guest Speakers:

- Hayley Dennis Lutrell Staffing: In Abingdon. Formerly @Work. Most positions are temp to hire. Clients change almost weekly. Factory, general labor, clerical and janitorial. Marion and Wytheville also have offices. Starting pay is \$15-20. About 90-days work through agency then soon after usually gain full time through the placement. Simply complete an application and we will start the process. Some positions require an interview and some do not. Different jobs have different qualifications. (Do you have second chance employers?) Yes, we have several second chance employers. This is not an issue. (Anything downtown Bristol?) There is an office in Bristol. Most clients are willing to give people a second chance. (Richard will put office contact information in the chat box.)
- Member Services Updates: The VEC announced a hiring event at the Bristol Raceway on 4/9/24. Mended Women has openings. Virginia Cares assists those who were previously incarcerated with job related services. VADOC has some 5-hours per week positions open. Information will be shared on the website. VDH is working on the Community Health Needs surveys. BLR has beds available in Bristol. ACAC meets 4/11 at Crossroads Institute in Galax. 6/13 Resource Fair at Virginia Highlands. Hands and Feet has been gifted a building. In process of creating the Sanctuary. Great day of music yesterday. Raised more than \$30,000. Mountain Mission School has beds available.

New Business:

Determine agenda for May 13, 2024. Maybe Eric Garrison with the Inn? Linda will reach out.

Wrap Up:

Questions/Concerns/Comments/Announcements:

Sub-Committee Reports

*Housing Committee/ Service Integration Committee/ Grants/Finance Committee*  
(Matt, Emma, Andy and Linda)

*Employment Committee:* (Jimmy with DARS, Mike with VEC)  
None

*Mentoring Committee/ Substance Abuse Committee:* (Ruth, Teresa, Chris,  
Charles)  
None

*Public Relations Committee:* (Manuel)  
None

*Executive Committee:* (Charles, Jennifer and Chris).  
None

*Board:* (Linda, Charles, Matt, Jimmy, Chris and Emma)

Re-entry Updates

Local Coalition Updates

None

**Next meeting – May 13, 2024: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday**

<http://www.highlandsccc.org>

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**The meeting adjourned at 10:22am.**

If there is someone you would like for us to invite to a future meeting as either a guest or member, please let one of us know.

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Respectfully submitted,

Chris Austin  
Secretary